



# Arizona Department of Public Safety **DIGEST**

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'Courteous Vigilance'

October 2005



## Hurricane help

On September 3, DPS was tasked with providing law enforcement services at a temporary housing facility in Phoenix that was established for hundreds of people displaced by Hurricane Katrina. The facility, which housed more than 500 hurricane evacuees at one point, was located inside the coliseum at the State Fairgrounds. More than 100 DPS employees were assigned full-time duties at the coliseum during the height of the operation. In the photo at left, DPS Sgt. Robbie Milam (from left) along with DPS Officers Herbert Groll and Donald Barcello review coliseum security plans while evacuees rest on cots directly behind them.

## DPS regains Torch Run glory by becoming event's top fundraiser

### *Agency employees propel Department to the top by raising nearly \$60,000*

After years of hard work and determination, the Arizona Department of Public Safety has once again become the top fundraising agency for the Arizona Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics.

The final fundraising results for the 2005 Torch Run campaign in Arizona, which marked the emotional 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the charitable event, were released in mid-September.

With the total money raised by DPS hovering just under a stunning \$60,000, the agency is perched securely at the top of the event's largest fundraisers list for the first time since the early 1990's.

"Not in my wildest dreams did I think we would be number one this year," said DPS Sgt. Faith Morgan, the agencies' coordinator for the Torch Run. "I knew DPS would eventually become the top fundraiser again, but I didn't think it would be this soon."

DPS' long climb back to the top in The Torch Run has been extremely impassioned and full of hard work.

The Department's long, storied legacy of consistently leading the event financially and emotionally was at stake.

After all, it has been only four years since DPS nearly dropped off the fundraising map for the event and more than a decade since the agency was the event's top fundraiser.

Pride was also at stake and it was unknown if DPS would ever be able to recapture Torch Run glory in the event that has become a fundraising life-line for Special Olympics.

"DPS employees responded in tremendous fashion to put us back on the top," said an elated Morgan, adding that all funds raised during the Torch Run go directly toward promoting a more active and better

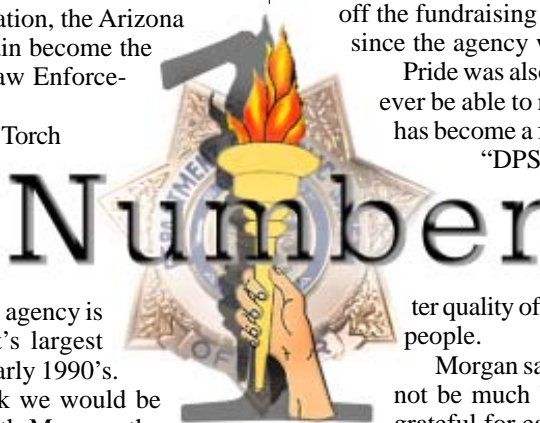
quality of life for mentally- and physically-challenged people.

Morgan said her feelings about DPS employees could not be much better at the moment and she is eternally grateful for each DPS employee's support of this year's

Torch Run.

"I have noticed that employees at this agency really respond if you keep them informed, aware and updated about an event," Morgan said. "I simply tried to increase awareness about the Torch Run

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**From Director  
Roger L. Vanderpool's**

***Vantage Point***



October is Domestic Violence Awareness month. Agencies throughout Arizona, both government and non-profit, will be promoting awareness of domestic violence in a variety of unique ways this month.

DPS is one of the lead agencies in the fight against domestic violence and our very own Crime Victim Services (CVS) unit administers millions of dollars that helps victims of this heinous but far-reaching crime.

DPS is affected by Domestic Violence in a variety of different ways because it touches all levels of society. Domestic Violence is not only dangerous for the victims, it is one of the most hazardous calls we respond to as officers. I would like us, as a Department, to join in the many efforts to do more to combat this serious problem.

The following activities have been planned at DPS for the month and I ask that you participate with me:

- Adopt a local shelter in your area, by donating items they need to assist DV victims.
- Wear a purple ribbon or pin throughout the month of October to show your support.
- Patrol officers, display your purple magnets on your patrol vehicles to show your commitment.
- Show your support by wearing purple each Friday in October and October 5th, the day Governor Napolitano proclaims as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.
- Visit the DV Awareness information table in the DPS Headquarters main lobby on October 5th, from 8 a.m. – 10 a.m. DV brochures, cards, purple ribbons, pins, balloons and other items will be available.
- Drop off donations (new or gently used items) for a Maricopa County shelter.
- Make a pledge through SECC to one of the DPS VOCA funded agencies on the attached list.

District Coordinators will have more information available for you, as well as the location of shelters in your areas. You may also contact CVS at x2414 or Sgt. Claudia Warner (Community Outreach) x2161.

***For the record***  
**Submit all film to the Photo Lab**

There is an ongoing problem at DPS caused by employees not submitting film and digital images to the Department's Photo Lab.

In accordance with General Order 3.2.50, all images related to a Department Report (DR) must be submitted to the DPS Photo Lab no matter how insignificant the photographed incident might seem to be.

"Employees shall forward for processing all photographic film taken for the purposes of recording evidence, public relations activities, training, and other authorized purposes to the Photo Lab," says the General Order.

In addition, the General Order also states that employees shall forward all digital media taken of traffic collisions and criminal investigations that have a DR number to the Photo Lab.

The images on the removable digital media will be treated as conventional packages of unprocessed photographic negative material by Photo Lab personnel.

"The Photo Lab will be responsible for removing the digital images from those media, in an approved file format, and transferring and storing those images onto a permanent, non-alterable storage medium," according to the General Order.

In the event the removable digital media cannot be delivered to the Photo Lab in a timely manner or removed from the camera, the images shall be transferred to a compact disc (CD) or a 3.5" diskette.

The images must be saved to the CD or a 3.5" diskette directly from the camera or removable camera medium. The CD or 3.5" diskette(s) shall be labeled with the DR number and sent to the Photo Lab in a official department film envelope.

In the event of exigent circumstances, an external film-processing vendor may process conventional film with the approval of the commander/manager.

After processing, the photographic negatives shall be forwarded to the Photo Lab for logging into the Department's Automated Report Tracking (DART) system.

The Photo Lab will forward an index/contact print to Department Records where receipt shall be noted in the DART system and the contact print filed.

Sally Cronin, supervisor of the DPS Photo Lab, says the importance of adhering to the guidelines set forth in General Order 3.2.50 can't be understated.

"Please ensure you are turning in all film, digital images, etc. to the Photo Lab," Cronin said. "Employees should not save images related to a DR on a personal computer just in case they think they may need them."

*The Digest* is published monthly by the DPS Community Outreach and Education Program for the employees and retirees of the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

Employees are invited to submit story ideas or stories for publication. Stories or story ideas may be submitted to *The Digest* by mail (mail drop 3350), EMS or Telephone (602-223-2545).

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*The Digest* can be accessed directly from the DPS World Wide Web home page at <http://www.azdps.gov/digest>.

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## DUI detail dedicated to mom who lost too much to drunken driver

The multi-agency Pinal County DUI Task Force, which includes several officers from DPS, recently dedicated their large and highly successful Labor Day weekend DUI detail to Dorris Morado of the Gila River Indian Community.

The dedication of the detail occurred Sept. 3 in front of several media representatives, community members, and area law enforcement officers at DPS' District 6 Headquarters Building in Casa Grande.

Nearly 12 years ago, Morado lost a daughter and two grandchildren to an impaired driver. Her daughter, Andrea, was 24 years old at the time of the crash while her two grandchildren, Damon and Alexis, were only six years old and two years old respectively.

Since her unimaginable loss in 1993, Morado has worked extensively with Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) to help reduce impaired driving in her community.

Unfortunately, she was recently affected again by a drunken driver when one of her sons was involved in a collision with someone who had been drinking.

The Pinal County DUI Task force chose to dedicate their Labor Day weekend DUI patrol to Morado as a sign of sympathy and sorrow for her suffering, as well as gratitude for her courageous

work to reduce drunken driving. In addition to holding the holiday DUI patrol in her honor, the task force also presented Morado with a bouquet of flowers and a large plaque.

The plaque read, "The Pinal County DUI Task Force - In memory of the Morado Family - We will never forget."

The Labor Day weekend DUI patrol combined the efforts of DPS and several other law enforcement agencies who operate in Pinal County.

Twenty eight law enforcement officers participated in the weekend event that was designed to remove impaired drivers from the roadways.

The combined effort of all agencies netted over 300 contacts with 15 DUI arrests and 27 other arrests.

The success of the detail was due to the commitment of all law enforcement agencies seeking to apprehend those who drive impaired.

DPS Sgt. Dave Blue, a squad supervisor in District 6, played a significant role in organizing and supervising the DUI detail along with helping plan the compassionate dedication to Morado.

Several representatives from MADD also supported the DUI detail by providing refreshments and other items to those officers participating in the event.



Dorris Morado

## Torch Run ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and the employees responded. It is awesome and the front-line employees did almost all of the work."

Morgan has decided that, after a short and successful tenure, it is time to move on from directing the Torch Run fundraising program at DPS.

She graciously concedes that the success that she has had bringing the Department back to respectability in this event has been much more than her personal dedication.

"Not only have our employees responded, but they responded beyond anything I had asked of them," Morgan said.

The ending results of all the fundraising events placed DPS as the top fundraising agency in the state with exactly \$59,506 raised to benefit the Special Olympics. The second highest fundraising agency was the Arizona Department of Corrections who raised \$51,985.

DPS' near \$60,000 total contribution to this year's event represents nearly a \$20,000 increase over the agencies' contribution last year. In addition, DPS' total funds raised this year are more than double the funds raised by the agency just a few years ago.

"All I did was bring the employee awareness up," Morgan said. "The fundraisers, thanks to front-line employees, are supporting

themselves now."

Two particular fundraisers were cited as being the keys to the Department re-reaching the standard that it set when it first entered this event back in 1986. The golf tournament that was held in Tucson brought in about \$20,000.

The second largest fundraiser this year was the third annual DPS cookout.

The all-you-can-eat picnic brought in \$11,000, which is two thousand more than last year's results and almost triple the amount of money it raised in its first year.

Morgan said Special Olympics traces its beginnings back to a simple inspiration found within an intellectually disabled woman named Rosemary Kennedy, who passed away this year at 86.

Rosemary's older brother, John Fitzgerald Kennedy, is easily the most recognizable name of the historic family but it was Rosemary's sister, Eunice Shriver, who started the Special Olympics.

As Sgt. Morgan stated, "She [Eunice] saw that if you mentor and build someone's self esteem through physical sports it helped them become a productive member of society."

A solid foundation has been set for whoever should take the responsibility that Morgan is vacating. Moreover, with

the position now comes a sense of pride in preserving an image of service and dedication to those with disabilities that the Department has resurrected within itself.



## Champions

DPS flexed its muscles in this year's Arizona Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics and came out on top for the first time in more than a decade. The agency raised nearly \$60,000.

## DPS helps hundreds left homeless after Hurricane Katrina

*Agencies' most visible aid occurs at giant shelter inside of coliseum*

On Saturday, September 3, DPS was tasked with providing law enforcement services at a temporary housing facility in Phoenix that was established for hundreds of people displaced by Hurricane Katrina.

The massive hurricane and its resulting devastation, which impacted the Gulf Coast region beginning Aug. 29, is now being called one of the worst natural disasters in U.S. history.

Temporary housing facilities like the one in Phoenix were established throughout the country for the thousands of victims of the nightmarish storm, many of whom were rescued by helicopter from the rooftops of their submerged homes.

The temporary housing facility in Phoenix, which eventually housed more than 500 hurricane evacuees at once, was located inside the Coliseum at the State Fairgrounds located at 19th Avenue and McDowell.

Evacuees began pouring into the building Sept. 4 and kept coming for several days.

In addition to DPS, many other agencies assisted in the unique relief effort, including the Department of Health Services, Department of Economic Security, Department of Education, American Red Cross, National Guard, State Lands, etc.

Many of the evacuees were placed on flights into Phoenix immediately following their rescue in the Gulf Coast area.

Most had lost everything they owned by the time they arrived at the DPS patrolled coliseum, and many had family members still missing or deceased.

During the late night hours of Sept. 3, DPS personnel from the Central Highway Patrol Bureau and Phoenix area Criminal Investigation Division began staffing the historic law enforcement mission.

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### Good neighbor

DPS Commander Bob Halliday (bottom photo) coordinates police activities inside the coliseum. In the top two photos, DPS officers keep things safe in the building.



## Hurricane ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

All days off and vacations were suspended in Central Highway Patrol Bureau to deal with the situation in the interim.

At the height of the operation, which was dubbed Operation Good Neighbor, over 100 Highway Patrol and Criminal Investigation personnel were assigned full-time duties in the coliseum.

Their jobs were to provide much needed law enforcement services for the evacuees, volunteers, and government entities operating within what became a true "city within a city."

DPS officers assigned to the coliseum were involved in a variety of law enforcement tasks, including screening all evacuees with a metal detector and searching their bag as they arrived.

DPS Commander Bob Halliday, who supervised all police activity in the coliseum, said 99 percent of the hurricane evacuees were very appreciative of the 24/7 law enforcement presence at the facility.

"The evacuees said they wanted to feel safe again and the police presence in the coliseum really helped in that regard," Halliday said. "The evacuees fled from an area where the sense of law and order was

rapidly deteriorating due to the scope of the natural disaster. They desperately wanted to have law and order again."

Halliday said he encouraged the DPS officers working in the coliseum to interact with the evacuees to help them feel safe and secure.

As it turned out, Halliday said no major incidents occurred at the coliseum during the two weeks in which the building was occupied by a large amount of evacuees.

"Everybody seemed to treat each other with care and respect and there were no serious altercations," Halliday said. "The DPS officers who worked the operation should feel proud that they helped keep the environment safe for these people who have had their lives turned upside down."

Most evacuees had moved out of the coliseum by Sept. 17 as state and federal officials, along with family members and friends of the evacuees, helped those affected by the hurricane find better housing.

Several years down the road, DPS personnel will be able to look back on this hurricane relief operation as one of the more unique, emotional, and rewarding assignments the agency has ever tackled.

Gov. Janet Napolitano and DPS Director Vanderpool repeatedly praised the members of DPS on its response to this crisis.



### Good neighbor

A DPS officer helps secure the coliseum's outer perimeter from his patrol vehicle during Operation Good Neighbor. Hurricane evacuees inside the coliseum said they appreciated the police presence there because they wanted to feel safe again.

## Employees can assist hurricane victims right now through SECC

DPS employees join together each year around this time to participate in the State Employees Charitable Campaign (SECC) which provides vital financial support to various charitable organizations.

This year's SECC campaign at DPS, which employees can support through a one time donation or small recurring payroll deductions, began Sept. 12 and will run through Oct. 28.

Those at DPS wishing to contribute to the Hurricane Katrina Relief Effort can actually do so through this year's SECC.

The organizations that support this effort and are eligible for contributions through the SECC are the American Red Cross (SECC Code #1403), the Salvation Army (SECC Code #0338), Operation Blessing (SECC Code #1390), and Church World Service (SECC Code #0310).

If you are contributing to the American Red Cross through SECC, you must write "Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund" on your pledge card if you want your contribution to go towards that particular cause.

Besides the charitable organizations already mentioned, there are numerous other charitable groups located in every part of the state, nationally, and internationally that are eligible for contributions through this



year's SECC.

Please review your SECC brochure for a comprehensive list of eligible charities.

If you have lost or misplaced your brochure, or your SECC pledge form, please contact one of the SECC division coordinators at DPS to obtain another one as soon as possible.

The names and telephone extensions of these coordinators are listed at the end of this article.

The theme for this year's campaign is "Give a hand, touch a heart...together we win".

The focus of this year's campaign is to increase participation by DPS employees in

addition to exceeding the pledges received last year by three percent.

Last year, 215 DPS employees pledged approximately \$38,660.

As an incentive to boost participation, the 100 Club has offered a one year membership to those employees at DPS contributing \$150 or more to the 100 Club through the SECC.

In addition, any employee at DPS who participates in this year's SECC drive will be entered into a drawing for several dozen quality prizes. The drawing for these prizes will be conducted at the end of the campaign.

If you have not already completed your pledge form, please take a moment and complete the form and return it to your designated SECC coordinator or complete your pledge online at [www.azsecc.com](http://www.azsecc.com).

The division SECC coordinators at DPS are Lt. Iven Wooten of the Director's Office (extension 2422), Lt. Bob Ticer of the Highway Patrol Division (extension 2836), Sgt. James Hernandez of the Criminal Investigations Division (extension 2098), Lt. Tom Woodward of the Agency Support Division (extension 2966), and Ms. Georgene Ramming of the Criminal Justice Support Division (extension 2400).

## Do commercial vehicle inspections actually lead anywhere?

*The answer is "yes" thanks in part to a little known specialty unit at DPS*

by DPS Lt. Bernie Gazdzik

What is a compliance review?

Field officers assigned to DPS' Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Bureau often wonder whether their hard work on commercial vehicle inspections actually leads anywhere and whether the carrier actually suffers consequences.

Most officers are aware that an inspection affects a company's safety rating through the SafeStat program, which then generates a list of substandard carriers.

What officers may not realize is that DPS has a Motor Carrier Investigation Unit with officers based in Phoenix, Tucson and Flagstaff which is directly responsible for conducting compliance reviews (C/Rs) of carriers on these lists.

C/Rs are also conducted on carriers involved in major incidents involving a fatality or a substantial complaint.

This article is designed to explain what a compliance review is and to help field officers understand what occurs behind the scenes of commercial vehicle inspections on the road side.

A compliance review is an on site examination of a motor carrier's operations by a DPS officer or US Federal Safety Investigator to determine a motor carrier's safety overall fitness.

A C/R of a motor carrier's operations would include:

- 1) driver's hours of service,
- 2) vehicle maintenance and inspection records,
- 3) driver qualifications,
- 4) controlled substance and alcohol testing procedures,
- 5) commercial driver's license requirement,
- 6) financial responsibility,
- 7) accident records
- 8) hazardous materials handling,



**Officer Debbie Lauko of the Motor Carrier Investigation Unit**

9) commercial economic regulations, if applicable.

The C/R focuses primarily on the carrier's safety management controls, operational performance, and regulatory compliance with US Federal Motor Carrier regulations, applicable US Hazardous Material regulations, and State statutes.

A compliance review is normally conducted at the carrier's principle place of business so the investigator has better access to the records required for review.

A C/R generally consists of some initial background investigation and perhaps surveillance of a carrier's operations to get a greater understanding of the operations that need to be reviewed. An initial interview with management is followed by interviews with staff responsible for record-keeping.

An investigator would then proceed to a review of accident logs, financial responsibility and insurance information, maintenance logs, commercial driver's license

checks, and controlled substance testing procedures.

Driver's records are compared against MVD records. Investigators take substantial time in reviewing log books and time cards as they relate to hours of service. In some cases, investigators will be joined by field officers in conducting Level V inspections of vehicles in the yard to determine the fleet's safety status.

Hazardous material handling is recognized as a priority. It should be noted

that all required records by regulation are to be maintained at the terminals so as to be available for inspection by an investigator within 48 hours of request.

**The compliance review focuses primarily on the carrier's safety management controls, operational performance, and regulatory compliance with US Federal Motor Carrier regulations, applicable US Hazardous Material regulations, and State statutes.**



# Commercial Vehicles ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Of course, the primary focus of a compliance review is a carrier's accident record and determining whether a motor carrier's procedures for handling and evaluation of accidents are appropriate. The reviewer questions whether actions have been taken by the carrier to stop certain types of crashes from recurring. This is done for a 12-month period prior to the initiation date of the compliance review.

In the financial responsibility review, the carrier is required to verify that they have met required minimum standards for financial responsibility as relevant to Part 387 of the Federal Motor Carrier Regulations. Most carriers are required to have cargo insurance and property brokers licensing offering arbitration on loss and damage claims, and appropriate filing.

The review establishes the effectiveness of the vehicle maintenance practices of the motor carrier or its agent to determine the general condition of the fleet. A review of the maintenance files may include vehicle inspections and out of service rate calculations.

In regards to drivers, the review would verify a company's procedures for hiring drivers, controlled substance and alcohol testing, and maintaining driving records. This includes an inspection of driver qualification files, driving records, driver's license status, payroll records, dispatch records, bills of lading, controlled substance and alcohol testing records, and the vehicle maintenance files.

A C/R places emphasis on compliance with hours of service specific to the carrier whether inter or intrastate operations. This review would be for compliance and to verify information of records of duty status and/or time records for hours of service.

Hazardous materials receive special attention where inspections are made of shipping papers, material safety data sheets, appropriate registration, and hazardous material incident records.

As a result of the compliance review of an interstate carrier, the company will be issued a safety rating of satisfactory, conditional, or unsatisfactory. A satisfactory rating indicates the carrier is in compliance with FMCSR and HMRS and any basic safety management controls.

If the carrier receives an unsatisfactory rating, the FMCSA will notify the carrier of its rating no later than 45 days after completion of the C/R. The carrier's authority to operate will be suspended effective 15 days after the service date of the notice with an



## Specialty Unit

DPS Officers assigned to the agency's Motor Carrier Investigation Unit are responsible for conducting compliance reviews of motor carriers who are placed on lists of substandard carriers. Roadside commercial vehicle inspections conducted by field officers at DPS play major roles in determining whether or not a motor carrier will be placed on those lists. Officers assigned to the Motor Carrier Investigations Unit often work in an office environment where they conduct audits and other investigative tasks by computer. However, members of the unique unit at DPS recently participated in an outdoor detail where they took in some fresh air (see photos). Clockwise from top left is Lt. Bernie Gazdzik, Officer Hyrum D'Addabbo and Officer John Stanely.

operating out of service order.

The order imposed would prohibit the carrier from operating any motor vehicle in the US unless the carrier demonstrates within 10 days of the service date of the notice that the compliance review contained errors. Within 30 days of the suspension order, the carrier must take the necessary corrective actions specified in the order or the carrier's provisional operating authority will be revoked.

If the carrier receives a conditional rating, the carrier's operating authority will be revoked and an operating out of service order will be imposed unless it presents evidence of necessary corrective actions within 30 days from the service date of the order.

In a compliance review of an intrastate carrier, notice is forwarded to the carrier of violations of specific regulations and statutes as found in the review. The carrier is

notified that corrective action is required immediately and that a subsequent review may lead to enforcement action taken by the Arizona Office of the Attorney General through a civil proceeding.

A compliance review is focused primarily in dealing with a carrier who has demonstrated poor safety procedures and equipment violations that have led to collisions involving their vehicles. This process is in place to identify problems before they occur in hopes of improving public safety of citizens as they travel with commercial vehicles on the state's highways, city streets and county roads.

Field officers are encouraged to contact the Motor Carrier Investigations Unit at DPS through Sgt. Rob Cahoon at 602-223-2881 for any additional information regarding compliance reviews. Cahoon is pictured in the bottom left corner of the previous page.

## CONFESSIONS OF DPS CHAPLAIN TERRY GREEN

### "Every chaplain at DPS has spent years helping people press on"

*This commentary is adapted from a presentation given by DPS Chaplain Terry Green at a district meeting in June 2005. Green is a chaplain in District 6.*

People typically want to join DPS because they have prior law-enforcement experience, or because they were recruited by an officer who is very enthusiastic about DPS.

I became a DPS chaplain for both of these reasons. I have prior military experience in the Marine Corps including prisoner escort duty; and I have ministry experience dealing with trauma and death.

About 18 months ago, I was recruited to serve as a DPS chaplain by an enthusiastic

knee injury which kept me out of patrol cars for several months but I've been able to be more active this year.

In January of this year, thanks to a grant from the Arizona Highway Patrol Association, I went with a group of Arizona DPS chaplains to California for three days of intensive training with chaplains from several states and various law enforcement agencies.

I have also attended in-state one-day training sessions during 2004 and 2005.

Now, let me explain how DPS chaplains work.

Chaplains are under the division of the Employee Assistance Unit. That means that our primary job is to help officers just like you. As our mission statement declares, chaplains "provide ethical, moral and spiri-

had been in pursuit of the driver who caused the terrible accident. My primary concern was for the officer so I sought to encourage him.

I also talked with the witnesses. I specifically told them that I did not want to hear their version of the events because we had several investigators on scene and on the way who would accurately record their information.

I merely wanted to know how they were doing. As a chaplain, I am not a part of the investigation and do not want to know the details because I would rather not be called as a witness in court. If an officer talks with me it is privileged information.

But if a witness talks with me, that is not privileged information. Therefore, I specifically discourage witnesses from telling me anything other than how they are feeling. For one man, this was his first experience facing death as he tried to move the dead in order to help injured people out of a rolled vehicle. I explained to them approximately how long they might be needed so that they could relax and not worry about the time, and I asked if we needed to contact anyone for them.

To help the officers, I kept an eye on the witnesses to make sure that they did not get together to collaborate their stories.

I also talked with one of the victims, helping him deal with this harsh situation. He was very shaken up because a car bounced in front of his truck and he could not stop before driving up over the car, killing the driver. I helped to calm him down so that when the investigators were ready to listen to him, he was ready to talk.

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"We can share your load. It can get pretty intense out on the road or on the scene of death and destruction. We can come alongside and the only reason we will be there is to help you".

— Chaplain Terry Green

officer serving in my district and an enthusiastic chaplain seeking to recruit someone for this district.

I didn't just say, "I'd like to be a chaplain," and they appointed me. I had to fill out an application identical to those for officers and then pass similar tests and examinations that officers have had to pass including the polygraph test but also including an examination by a panel of chaplains.

Most applicants for chaplain are actually turned away because they either do not meet the background requirements, do not pass the polygraph test—which is really sad for someone trying to be a chaplain—or do not pass the examination by a panel of chaplains who would become their peers.

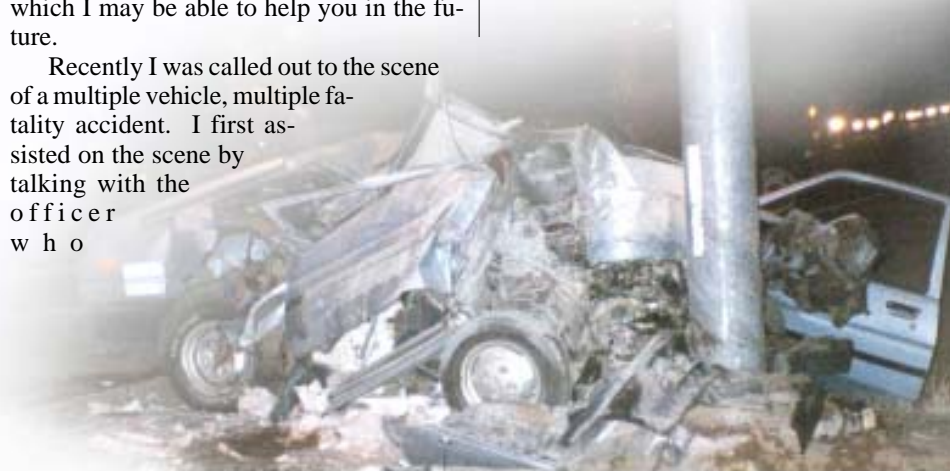
By passing each of these examinations and committing both to regularly serving within my district and to attending regular training, I was eligible to become a chaplain. Last year my service was interrupted by a

tual support to the officers, staff and families of the Arizona Department of Public Safety."

This morning I thought I would share with you some of the ways in which I have helped other officers, and some ways in which I may be able to help you in the future.

Recently I was called out to the scene of a multiple vehicle, multiple fatality accident. I first assisted on the scene by talking with the officer who

w h o





## Chaplain ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

None of these things were big things. But because I ministered to these people, the paramedics, helicopter pilots, firemen and DPS officers could focus on their jobs and the ongoing evacuation of the wounded and investigation of the scene.

I have also been called out for an NOK (notifying next of kin of a death). As officers, you know the procedures, but we know the people. Every chaplain serving with DPS has spent years helping people cope and press on during the most difficult times of their lives.

We can help you and these hurting people. No one will ever truly feel comfortable in the presence of death and loss, but we are used to sharing that loss with others. Further, people usually feel more comforted if a chaplain comes along.

Now, let me tell you about five things that chaplains can do to help you—the officers and staff of DPS.

1. We can share your load. It can get pretty intense out on the road or on the scene of death and destruction. We can come alongside and the only reason we will be there is to help you.

2. We can help you spiritually. You are more than a body with a brain—you are also soul and spirit. Every person wrestles with issues of life, death, and what happens next.

Chaplains can help you find answers for these vital issues so that you are more prepared for life and the life to come. Anytime you have a question about life or about spiritual matters, I would love to talk with you and help you find answers.

3. We can provide counsel for you and your family. In my line of work as a pastor and chaplain, the divorce rate is extremely low. In your line of work, the divorce rate among officers is much higher than the national average. Most of our chaplains are trained in family counseling but more than that, we have a network of resources and individuals we can bring to help you and your family.

4. We can listen—and not talk about it. We take your confidentiality so seriously that all of the DPS chaplains have taken an oath to go to jail before betraying your trust.

The only time chaplains can ever talk with anyone about what you have shared is if they perceive you to be a direct threat to yourself or to some other person. In every other circumstance chaplains cannot and will not talk. We are here to listen and help.

5. We can help you do a better job. When we're called on the scene, we will work with you, doing little things so that you can focus on the bigger parts of your job. Not only that, but chaplains can make a big difference in the public's perception of DPS. We are people specialists: you cannot find

we cannot remove, but we can walk with you through them.

Further, your chaplains cannot betray your confidence. I know I've mentioned this already, but it is one of the major concerns that officers have about chaplains. Please remember, it would violate our oath to share your confidence and we take our oath just as seriously as the most dedicated officers view their own oath. We are sworn to help and serve you and we will do exactly that.

There is also one other thing we cannot do: chaplains cannot help if they do not get called. You can be in need and we can be ready to help, but it we do not hear from you, we cannot help.

So call me or email me whenever you want to talk—especially if it is about spiritual or life decisions you are facing, but even if it seems small—I'm here for you. Call me if you think a friend needs to talk. Chaplains come on board for the purpose of helping you and your fellow officers; not for any other reason.

Call me when you need a volunteer to help. I've helped shuttle cars when I was available; the department loves it when I do that because they don't have to pay me.

Call me when I can help minister to people on the scene. I mentioned the victims and witnesses, but sometimes the perpetrators need someone there as well. We're here to partner with you to help make our highways safer.

Call me when I can minister to a family learning of the death of someone they love. Again, we have dedicated our lives to help people through the most difficult times of their lives, and we can assist you greatly during these times.

Call me if I can help you or your family.

Your chaplain is a tool. I'm not a piece of equipment you keep in your trunk, but I can be called to help you do your job more easily and more effectively.

Please call me anytime on my cell phone which is (520) 510-9805. If you prefer to send me an e-mail that address is chaplain@vbccg.org. If you would like to reach another chaplain at DPS, perhaps one assigned to your very own district, please call Chaplain Joseph Odonnell at (602) 359-1206. Odonnell oversees all of the chaplains at DPS.



### Intense job

Chaplains at DPS are specially trained to help officers handle the extreme stress and tough emotional experiences that are inherent to law enforcement work. Chaplains can also listen to officers and not talk about it. In fact, chaplains at DPS take confidentiality so seriously that they have all taken an oath to go to jail before betraying an officer's trust.

a more dedicated group of volunteers with the training and the zeal to help you and this department look good to the victims, witnesses, and families of those involved in problems on our highways.

But there are a few things chaplains cannot do. We cannot stop bullets. When I'm riding with you, I'll be wearing my vest just like you. However, I'll be completely unarmed and must remain unarmed unless your life is threatened. Some of us chaplains love to shoot—I love the smell of gunpowder in the morning—so we suggested that they issue a chaplains' order to approve 9mm weapons. For some reason, it was not approved. LOL. We cannot even carry a pocketknife.

We also cannot raise the dead—although we work for the One who does. Death and sorrow are parts of your life that

## Retired DPS major feels special bond with China and its people

*The 79-year-old visited the country twice this year to educate, learn, and reflect*

by Kellen Chavez  
State Service Intern

Tom Milldebrant, a retired DPS major who will turn 80 years old next summer, recently embarked on two lengthy and adventurous journeys to China inspired by goodwill, family devotion and nostalgia.

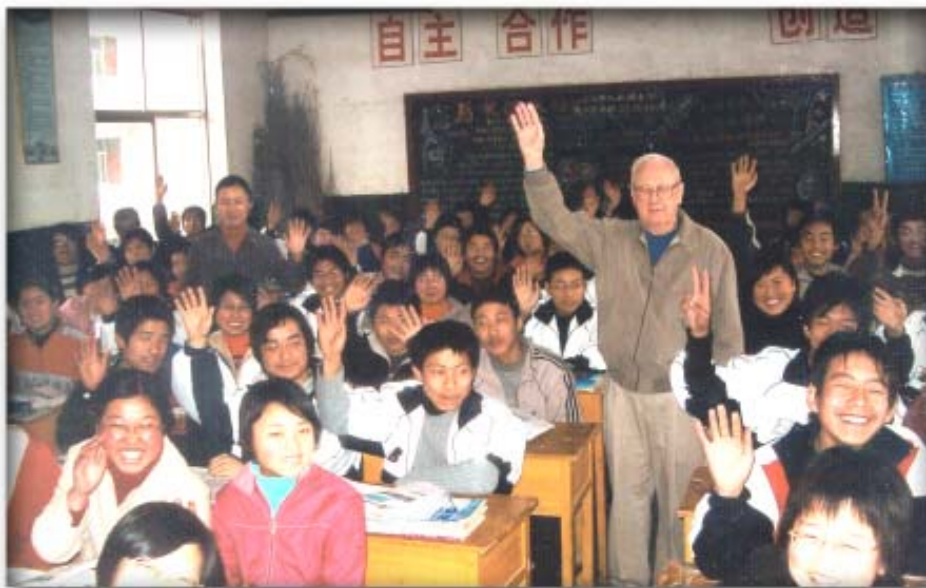
During his initial trip earlier this year, which marked his first visit to China since he served in World War II, Milldebrant worked with an organization called Global Volunteers.

This organization, which recruits volunteers and focuses their work on anything from tutoring to environmental work to health care, hones the motto "international volunteer work to wage peace through service."

"I would urge anybody that is interested in doing some meaningful volunteering to contact Global Volunteers," Milldebrant said. "It is a really outstanding organization that is making a great contribution towards world peace."

Milldebrant was sent to the town of Xi'an where he educated Chinese children in conversational English. He said Xi'an is actually a very small town in China even though it is home to about six million people.

"Towns with six million inhabitants are very common throughout China and they



Milldebrant with his class in Xi'an

are dwarfed by the unimaginable size of the country's more populous cities," said Milldebrant, adding that China's total population has grown to around 1.3 billion people.

While teaching in Xi'an, he learned that the expectations of children in China differ greatly from those of the United States.

"The Chinese (children) start learning their ABC's (in English) when they are just five years old," Milldebrant said. "By the time they get to high school, they are very, very comfortable with the most vital aspects of the English language."

While teaching in China he encountered a different class of 75 students everyday for a week.

Shortly after returning from his goodwill trip, Milldebrant ventured back to China once more, this time with his 13-year-old grandson, Parker.

When asked why he chose to take Parker on such a trip, Milldebrant boldly stated, "I am convinced that his generation and other generations are going to be economically and maybe even militarily fighting the Chinese in their lifetime."

"I would like to have Parker as prepared as possible for that. I may have a pretty big agenda for a 13-year-old boy, but I'm hoping this will stick with him down the road."

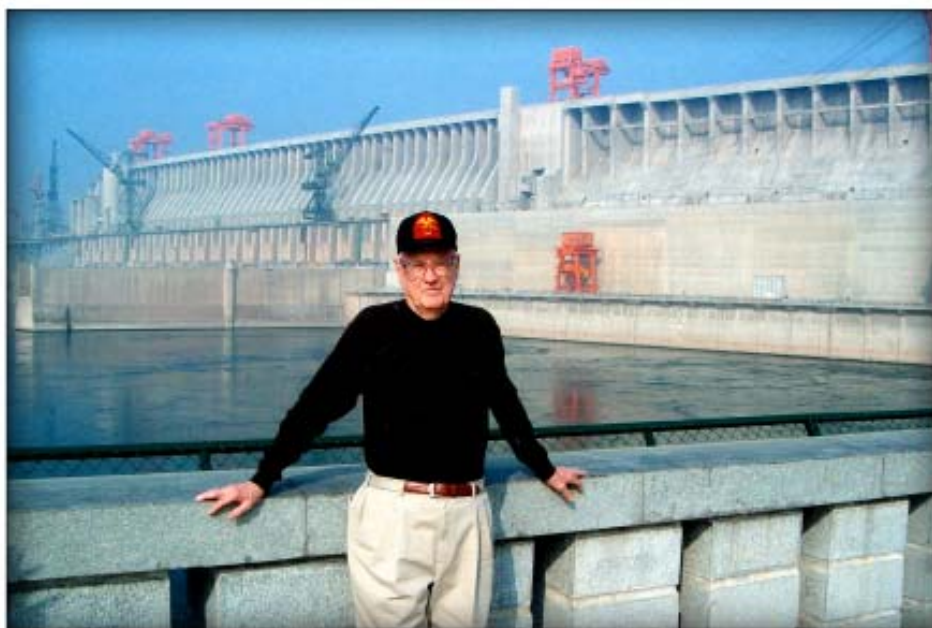
In their exploration of China, Milldebrant cultured his grandson by visiting over 10 different Chinese cities.

They ventured through cities of cultural significance and paid homage to the city of Shanghai, the place where Milldebrant first experienced China in 1945.

In his recollections of his military assignment to China in 1945, Milldebrant talks of an old hotel where he stayed during his time in Shanghai. He talks of the joy and nostalgia he felt when he returned to find The Park Hotel still has the same jazz band playing as did in 1945.

It appears Milldebrant still feels a very special connection with this land.

He recently told his children, "If I am in China, and I die over there I want my ashes in the Yangtze River because there is just a feeling that I'm at home there."



Milldebrant at China's Three Gorges Dam





## Who Is she?

That sense of complete style, sophistication and maturity has never left this girl who has been a civilian employee at the Department since 1983. This employee works in the Phoenix-area but is not assigned to the DPS Headquarters Building.

Who is this DPS employee?

Correctly identify her and you will be eligible to win a DPS polo shirt courtesy of the Associated Highway Patrolmen of Arizona (AHPA).

Interdepartmental e-mail entries should be addressed to Jim Jertson, badge number 5609. Internet entries should be sent to [jjertson@azdps.gov](mailto:jjertson@azdps.gov). Interdepartmental mail should go to *The Digest*, P.O. Box 6638, Phoenix, AZ 85005.

### September contest

The September contest had not yet been finalized as the deadline for this issue of *The Digest* approached. The results from the September contest, along with the results from this month's contest, will be listed in the November issue. Thanks for playing.

## Inside DPS

### 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

Slechta, Edward J., 323, Sergeant

Witter, David M., 328, Commander

### 35 YEARS OF SERVICE

Summers, Kenneth R., 768, Sergeant

### 20 YEARS OF SERVICE

Eaves, Thomas R., 3710, Sergeant

Power, Bradley R., 3698, Aircraft Mechanic Supervisor

### NEW EMPLOYEES

Faber, Richard A., 6592, Tower Rigger Trainee

Nyhart, Christopher D., 6593, State Service Intern

Rubel, Meloni A., 6590, Criminal Records Specialist

Showers, Ryan A., 6591, Laboratory Technician

Twigg, Kenneth E., 6594, Rotary Wing Pilot I

### DEPARTURES

Bennett, Martin J., 6567, Cadet Officer

Conrad, Bryan D., 6570, Cadet Officer

D'Oyen, Dave C., 4864, Officer

Harrolle, Bruce W., 5669, Officer

Kadelak, Stephen M., 6573, Cadet Officer

Nichols, Scott A., 6574, Cadet Officer

Sinclair, Bertram J., 5511, Local/Wide Area Network Specialist

Sneva, Corbett D., 5629, Officer

Sporka, Susan L., Police Communications Dispatcher

Sumner, Timothy L., 6185, Officer

Thorsen, Kenneth N., 3044, Computer Network Operator

### BIRTHS

Jordan Stephen Mehr - 8 lbs., 1 oz. 20 inches. Born Sept. 10 at the Navapache Regional Hospital in Show Low. Jordan is DPS Officer Quent Mehr's third grandchild. Mehr is assigned to the Highway Patrol in Tucson.

### ADOPTIONS

Colton Andrew Talakte - Officially adopted Aug. 29 by DPS Officer Jon Talakte and his wife, Stacy, an administrative secretary at DPS. Colton is 19-

months old. Both Jon and Stacy are assigned to Tucson.

### OBITUARIES

Charles Henderson passed away Aug. 28. He was the father of DPS Officer Jason Henderson who is assigned to the Highway Patrol in Phoenix.

June Neff passed away Aug. 29. She was the mother of DPS Fingerprint Technician Judy Neff who is assigned to Phoenix.

Linda McSpadden passed away Aug. 31. She was the mother of DPS Officer Heather McSpadden who is assigned to Pinal County.

Jerry Bibeau of Marana passed away Sept. 8. He was a retired DPS officer.

Gloria Snyder passed away Sept. 14. She was the mother of DPS Evidence Custodian Janet Snyder who is assigned to Tucson.

## Letters

### Dear Director Vanderpool:

On June 16th at about 11 a.m. I was exiting the 101 freeway onto U.S. 60 when I hit a steel bar that shredded my left front tire. The emergency lane on that big curve isn't particularly wide and I felt in danger. I was at a loss as to what to do. I had no cell phone to call for help, it was very hot and trying to jack up that front tire was almost impossible and very dangerous.

A DPS officer arrived, took charge, made me stay by the wall, used his jack to change my tire, and got me on my way. He made me so proud of him. He was courteous, kind, and insisted I stay by the wall. Since I didn't get his badge number or his name, I hope this letter finds him. I am 81-years-old and he probably saved my life. If he is an example of our DPS officers, we are in great hands and I am especially grateful to him.

**Ronald Miller**  
**Munds Park**

### Dear Director Vanderpool:

I am writing to personally thank Officer Bert Cheney who assisted us on August 29th.

It was about 3 p.m. on S.R. 87 going into Payson when our truck developed trouble. We had our two horses in tow and were stranded. Officer Cheney was a life saver.

He towed us to a safe area and arrived with my husband. He was truly very helpful and kind. We were very grateful.

Please let him know that Robert, Michael and Janet Blaes appreciate all that he did.

**Janet Blaes**  
**Mesa**

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

**DIGEST**

P.O. Box 6638

Phoenix, AZ 85005

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## Down the Highways

**October 1970**

Several DPS officers helped provide security during President Richard Nixon's visit to Phoenix, Oct. 31. Among those getting to greet the president was Phoenix resident Alberto Gutier. Earlier in October, DPS officers assisted in providing security for Vice President Spiro Agnew.

**October 1975**

Vernon L. Hoy, 48, deputy chief of the Los Angeles Police Department, has been nominated by Arizona Gov. Raul Castro to be DPS' next director.

Hoy's appointment is subject to confirmation by the Arizona State Senate. Hoy was expected to assume the director's job on Jan. 6. He replaces James Hagerty, who resigned when Castro took office in January.

**October 1980**

DPS Narcotics Agent Mike Coppinger, 25, was killed Oct. 19 in an off-duty traffic accident on Interstate 10 west of Tucson.

Coppinger, a Tucson resident, was returning from a Highway Patrol Association Rodeo when the truck in which he was riding in left the interstate and struck a tree. The rodeo he had attended was a benefit in memory of DPS Narcotics Agent John Walker who was shot and killed in Tucson on Nov. 30, 1979.

**October 1985**

DPS, in cooperation with the Arizona State Fair and Pizza Hut, is trying to make the Arizona State Fair a touch safer this year. DPS officers will be handing out child safety tags which will help identify the child should the youngster get lost.

The tags have a place for the child's

name, a map showing the location of the DPS fair headquarters and a replica of the DPS shoulder patch, said DPS Officer Marty Dangel.

**October 1990**

A routine traffic stop made on Oct. 24 by DPS Highway Patrol Officer Mike Godinez resulted in the seizure of 21 kilograms of cocaine.

Lt. Greg Eavenson, District 3 commander, estimated the wholesale value of the drugs, which weigh out to 46 pounds, to be around \$650,000.

Godinez stopped the 1978 Chrysler Cordoba on I-40 just east of Holbrook for unsafe lane usage. Upon receiving permission to search the vehicle, Godinez found the cocaine hidden behind panels near the rear seats of the car.

\*\*\*

A DUI suspect was shot and wounded by DPS CVSS Officer Ken Lindley following a 13-mile, high-speed chase near Winslow Oct. 5.

Lindley wounded the suspect in the elbow and leg with one shot from his departmentally-issued shotgun. The shooting occurred when the suspect, Harvey Vai, 27, grabbed the shotgun and tried to wrestle the weapon from Lindley.

The incident began near Two Guns when Lindley, with assistance from DPS Officer Gene Fredericks, attempted to stop the suspect.

\*\*\*

On Oct. 7, DPS Highway Patrol Officer Gene Fredericks arrested his 20th felony suspect of the year, but this one was a bit tougher than the previous 19.

The incident began the morning of Oct. 7 when a suspect left a Flagstaff gas station without paying his bill. Sometime later, Fredericks spotted the suspect's vehicle eastbound on Interstate 40 near Two Guns.

After stopping the vehicle, Fredericks was walking toward the car when the suspect jumped out with a handgun. The suspect fired twice with one round grazing Fredericks' head and the other hitting his legs.

Fredericks' return fire missed and the suspect jumped back into his car and sped away. With assistance from DPS Sgt. Thad Hale and DPS Officer Bill Cramer, Fredericks boxed in the suspect's car forcing him to stop. Fredericks made the arrest without further resistance from the suspect.

**October 1995**

DPS Motor Officer Brian Marston was admitted to an intensive care unit at Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center in Phoenix, Oct. 18, after a serious crash that left him with a broken collar bone, six broken ribs and serious internal injuries.

Marston's motorcycle was struck by a Chevrolet compact vehicle as he was heading eastbound on Oak street near 27th street. Marston, who had both his sirens and lights on, was attempting to pass the Chevrolet when it abruptly turned left into his motorcycle.

Marston was taken to the hospital by the fire department. District 7 commander, Lt. Gary Zimmerman quoted Marston by saying, "He remembers going to work and picking up his motorcycle at Fleet. The next thing he remembers is being in the hospital emergency room."